

# Bridgeport Farmer

VOL. 51—NO. 94

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1915

PRICE TWO CENTS

## LAKE CO. PERFECTS BIG LAND PURCHASE NEAR SEAVIEW AVENUE PLANT

Submarine Builders Will Greatly Extend Work—Secrecy Essential to Successful Completion of Plans, Says Company.

Will Close Part of DeForest Avenue, Having Purchased Land Adjoining, on Procuring Necessary Permission of Common Council.

The Lake Torpedo Boat Company filed today, deeds to twenty-seven lots of land which it has purchased from Charles E. Brown, Frank Miller, Lillian Sheldon, Ernest Nettleton, Leslie Graves, E. Metcalf and George W. White. The lands are at the foot of Jefferson street, Adams street, DeForest avenue and DeKalb avenue, and between Jefferson street and the north side of Seaview avenue. Where the company's holdings now exceed fifteen acres and two thousand feet of water front. The grants negotiated directly with the company's chairman and General Counsel, Fred B. Whitney, an American International Lawyer of Washington, D. C.

The Lake Company's Chairman stated today that the company's various purchases of land naturally arouse the interest of the Bridgeport public and press which has always co-operated to make the local plant a success but that the company regrets that it is not in a position to make much of a public statement.

Each Government keeps secret everything with regard to submarines. All submarine contractors are hedged in by circumstances unknown to any other business.

The United States submarine contracts call for confidential relations that are enforced by Federal Statutes which involve a fine or imprisonment for any violation. It is difficult to draw the line in submarine matters and consequently the company's board of directors has not felt it prudent to give the officers or employees any discretion unless specifically authorized to do so.

Foreign governments naturally expect the "most favored nation" treatment.

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## GREAT CLEAN-UP DAY IN SENATE FOR THE RORBACK HENCHMEN

(Special to The Farmer.)

Hartford, April 20.—It was a big day for the Rorback boys in the senate. They made a killing. The game laws were bulging when the gavel of Lieut. Governor Wilson sounded the adjournment.

On the favorable report of the committee on appropriations the bill was adopted which creates seven persons to hold jobs at \$5,000 each and to receive under the polite designation "expenses" an additional thousand dollars. The committee will consist of six lawyers, and one clerk, who will probably also be a lawyer.

It will revise the statutes, which is the project upon which some \$40,000 of the state's money will be paid out.

## RECEIVERSHIP SUIT AGAINST THE ROCK ISLAND IS BEGUN

Chicago, April 20.—Petition for a receiver for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway Company was filed in the United States district court here today by the American Steel Foundries Company.

The defendant company is the operating company which, according to company officers, has never before been named in such a suit. Ralph M. Shaw, of Chicago, the American Steel Foundries Company, stated to Judge Carpenter that the Rock Island has admitted its inability to meet obligations and that for the benefit of stockholders, bondholders and other creditors his client was moved to ask for a receiver.

Judge Carpenter asked why the bondholders had not made the application instead of the foundries company and the lawyer explained that thus far the company has not defaulted on its interest on bonds.

The petition for receivership was granted and H. U. Mudge, president of the company, and former Secretary of War Dickinson were named as receivers.

er of the young man, Borglund was riding a motorcycle bound for the center of the city, on Fairfield avenue, when Anderson's car approached from the opposite direction. As Mr. Anderson attempted to turn into Yale street, it is declared his machine crashed into the motorcycle. Borglund was hurled to the pavement. The ambulance corps was called and Borglund was taken to the Bridgeport hospital.

Anderson was not held. He was taken to police headquarters and previously to the third precinct station, but as a late hour this afternoon he had not been placed under arrest.

According to the story told the father

## ROOSEVELT ON STAND TO BACK UP HIS CHARGES

Only One Witness Called By Boss Barnes In Libel Action.

Syracuse, N. Y., April 20.—Theodore Roosevelt today went on the witness stand to defend himself in the suit claiming \$50,000 damages for alleged libel brought against him by William Barnes, Jr.

Counsel for Barnes, rested their case today after they had offered evidence of publication of the alleged libelous statements uttered against the former chairman of the Republican State Committee by the former President of the United States.

Mr. Barnes' counsel placed only one witness upon the stand. He was John McGrath, Col. Roosevelt's private secretary, who testified that he gave out the statement complained of to newspaper reporters at Oyster Bay. The case of the plaintiff was rested after counsel of both sides had addressed the jury.

Col. Roosevelt arrived at the courtroom some time before Mr. Barnes. The crowd seeking admittance cheered him as he alighted from an automobile and the Colonel waved a reply with his hat. Mr. Barnes was late and the court decided not to wait for him.

William M. Ivins, chief of counsel for the plaintiff, began his statement by explaining to the jury the identity of the principals.

"The plaintiff," he said, "is William Barnes, of Albany, and the defendant is Theodore Roosevelt, of the United States."

Mr. Ivins then explained the libel and the law pertaining thereto.

Mr. Ivins then continued in part as follows:

"We must consider the occasion on which the alleged libelous matter arose. The occasion was antecedent to the primary elections in this state and fall. The defendant, while he was a member of the assembly in the early '80's, established a reputation as

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## BRIDGEPORT FARMER

Infant, Safe With Mother, Was Thought in Blazing Winton Homestead.

HISTORIC MANSION AGAIN IN FLAMES

Loss of \$2,000 When Old House Now in Tenements is Visited By Fire.

The third fire to originate in the attic of the old Winton homestead today did about \$2,000 damage to the old A. W. Winton mansion at North Washington avenue and Lindley street and created other damage to personal property of four families occupying the house by reason of the fire.

It was necessary to keep the entire building from being gutted. A little baby sleeping alone in a crib in the room just below where the fire originated was the occasion of much excitement in the vicinity though rescued at an early moment during the course of the fire by its own mother. Displaying heroic spirit, George Stafford, another resident in the house, groped through the smoke filled hallway in an effort to locate the child whom neighbors bewailed as lost in the flames.

Most of the family effects of the two families on the lower floor of the three story frame structure were dragged to places of safety, while those on the upper floor were tumbled hastily from windows until the fire drove the tenants into the yard.

Among the humorous incidents attending the fire was that relating to an artist tenant, John F. Benkow, who dragged from his atelier on the lower floor a framed oil commercial painting entitled "The Home of Never Enough Bread."

The fire originated in the attic, shortly after 12 o'clock. George Stafford said that he heard someone shrieking "Fire." This is believed to have been one of the tenants on the upper floor. An alarm was turned in from box 88 by the Berkshire Mills, which gave the impression about town that that historic structure was doomed.

Chief Mooney found the entire attic in a blaze. Flames were then shooting out of the east former windows, and had eaten to the apartment of the second floor. Streams of water were turned on the building, which was thought doomed, but the blaze was soon checked. Much trouble was experienced in getting the water to the upper floors in returning through the various corridors of the building to rescue their possessions.

The cause of the fire has not been fully ascertained, some alleging that it was caused by a back-draught in the chimney, while others were of the belief that carelessness in storing goods in the attic might have caused spontaneous combustion. Two other fires of similar origin have occurred in the house in the past few weeks. The house is tenanted by four individual families, Herbert Charters and George Stafford on the upper floors, John F. Benkow and G. Knepper, the lower apartments.

El. Wagner, 108 Arctic street, is the owner of the structure, which was once the homestead of the Winton family and later was occupied by Major Emory Marion. "Though the tenants carried no insurance it is said that the building is fully covered."

TRY THOS. TOBIN

BECAUSE HE LET WOMEN IN SALOON

To test the law which prohibits women loitering in saloons, Thomas Tobin, who conducts a place at 33 Middle street, was arraigned before Judge Davis and a jury in the criminal common pleas court this afternoon. There were charged with violating the law, which forbids women in saloons, who were defended by Attorney John C. Chamberlain.

Sergeant Charles A. Wheeler of the police department, testified that Tobin, in company with Policemen Cury, Hoffman and Dailey visited Tobin's place one Saturday night last February. They saw a number of women sitting around at tables drinking with men. The other officers described how the women loitered in the saloon. In the city court Tobin was fined \$100 and costs.

At press hour the case had not reached the jury.

Two Wives Call Their Husbands Unfaithful

Lillian M. Knapp of Norwalk, has filed papers in the superior court in divorce proceedings against Clarence E. Knapp of Norwalk. Infidelity is the ground.

Another divorce action filed was that of Lillian Kendall Foss of Stamford against Martin M. Foss of Stamford. She alleges infidelity but says she does not know the co-respondent's name. The parties were married November 29, 1900.

LOCAL OFFICERS WILL ATTEND WATERBURY COUNCIL

Grand Chaplain Hugh Robinson and Past Regent William Bent will head the group of delegates from this city to the annual council session of the Grand Council Royal Arcanum to be held to-night and to-morrow in Waterbury.

The festivities will open with a banquet at the Hotel Elton this evening and continue through to-morrow. Waterburyans have made elaborate preparations to welcome and entertain the guests royally.

## SCORES ACTION OF WILSON ON BRIDGE MATTER

Charles D. Davis, Chairman of City Plan Commission, Wants Reason.

"PEOPLE OUGHT TO KNOW," HE DECLARES

Bridge Commission's Secret Sessions and "Expediency" Excite Get Wallop

Charles D. Davis, chairman of the City Plan commission, handed Mayor C. B. Wilson and the Stratford avenue bridge commission a neat wallop last evening when he addressed the members of the Get-Together club of the Washington Park M. E. church. Mr. Davis said it gently but nevertheless effectively.

That Bridgeport citizens will be paying for the new Stratford avenue bridge about 15 years after it has been worn out was the deduction of Chairman Davis last night when he figured that the city will be paying for the bridge for the next 50 years, if the plans of the bridge commission are carried out.

That one of the side issues, in connection with the bridge commission's "expediency" plan—widening Stratford avenue on the north side will cost more than it would cost to build the entire bridge according to the City Plan commission proposal was brought out by Mr. Davis.

That Mayor Wilson and the bridge commission were disconcerted, to say the least, after the Plan commission had worked two years in the interests of the city and had made their recommendations to cast aside the report of the commission without much scrutiny and then neglect to even ask the opinions of the members of the commission, was a point which Mr. Davis made.

"This is a chance that comes once in a lifetime," declared Mr. Davis. "It would seem to me that it would be courteous to at least give a reason for not considering the report. It's the people's business. They ought to have something to say. If this new plan is best, all right, but some reason should be given."

"It has been said by the mayor that time is the reason for going ahead with this new plan. Under the plan of the City Plan commission, the new bridge would be built in 15 years, and being used, and thus no time will be lost."

Mr. Davis startled the audience with the statement:

"Several prominent engineers whom I have consulted have given me the opinion that the project of the bridge commission will cost very, very much more than the City Plan commission project. A shorter and less expensive bridge would be built by our plan, the engineers tell me."

Mr. Davis told the members of the club that if the bridge is built according to the bridge commission plans, it probably won't last any longer than the present Stratford avenue bridge—25 years. At that rate, he calculated, Bridgeport will be paying for the bridge about 15 years after the structure is worn out and the city has been burdened for another one.

Experts of the Vollen and Frederick Olmstead, who are known all over the world, should be given some consideration. Their ideas are simply worthy of thought. They haven't spent a lot of money in the building of a new bridge in the expectation of having their report rejected," said he.

Mr. Davis declared that when the City Plan commission recommended that the railroad station be placed south of Fairfield avenue and north of State street, it wasn't with the expectation of having it done immediately, but he said it is a thing of the future. In fact, he declared, a construction engineer of the New Haven road told him it is very likely the railroad station will be built there when a day one is needed. Sympathetic negotiations," he declared, "will bring about the improvements desired from the railroad."

Stereoscopic slides were shown. Mr. Davis declared that that part of the city in the neighborhood of Willard and Kelley streets, south of the railroad station, has passed the danger line for crowded conditions. He said it will soon be a slum, if it cannot be considered that already.

A boost for commission government was made by Mr. Davis. He told how he had wanted to get something done through the department of public works and it took him six months to get a report on the matter. He was always referred to "the other fellow." It took him three months thereafter to get the desired action.

LAMB WILL TO BE PROTESTED BY HEIRS

The will of Jane D. Lamb, a former resident of South Norwalk, but who before her death made her home with her sister, Julia Hubbell, at 283 State street, will undoubtedly be contested. Because of her death in this city, the will in which she leaves all her property to her son and person, to her sister, Julia Jarvis of Norwalk, will be protested. Julia Jarvis, her sister, is named as executrix. The estate consists of about \$2,000 in savings banks.

The estate is named: Julia Hubbell, of 333 State street, this city; Mary Van Wagener, 55 East 76th street, both sisters; George W. Lamb, East Norwalk; Edwin H. Lamb, Orchard street, South Norwalk; E. Louise Hartwell, of Walnut Beach, Milford, children of her brother, Edwin; Henry R. Swan of Huntington, West Virginia, son of her sister, Antoinette Swan. It is reported that the heirs-at-law were preparing to make the contest. The will, which was drawn in South Norwalk, was admitted to probate today.

Mary Dickson, postmistress at Kenebec, Wis., was shot and killed by an Indian, James Wapoose, a rejected suitor, who then shot and fatally injured himself.

WEATHER FORECAST

Fair tonight and Wednesday, cooler, Fresh northwest winds.

## TURKISH FLEET IS PENNED IN BLACK SEA BY RUSSIAN MINES

INCENDIARY AGAIN APPLIES BRAND IN TOWN OF REDDING

Citizens Rescue Town Records When Blaze Threatens Colonial Mansion.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Redding, April 20.—Residents of Redding who own property here are fear-stricken as a result of the series of incendiary fires that have destroyed many buildings here during the last year. One more outrage was perpetrated last night when two barns and a shed owned by Town Clerk Jonathan B. Sanford were destroyed and the beautiful Colonial home in which he lives was barely saved.

Mr. Sanford was awakened shortly before 1 o'clock this morning by the crackling of flames. He looked out the window of his home and saw one of his barns enveloped by flames and the fire starting on the other buildings. Neighbors were summoned and they strove manfully but were unable to save the structure.

Four cows were rescued from the flames, and several young cattle were taken out, but three horses were burned to death. Several wagons, farm implements of all kinds, harness, a gas engine and some hay and grain were burned.

It was only with much difficulty that the townsmen preserved the handsome home of the town clerk, which is a monument to Colonial architecture. So dubious did it look at one time, that the town records were removed from the office in the house to a place of more safety. The well added, and carried the sparks and brands away from the building.

Fire caught the roof of the home of Albert Porhan. The house and barn were saved in the same manner that the Sanford home was preserved by wetting the roof continually.

No reason other than that of incendiary can be given for the blaze. It is believed to have started in the neighborhood of the horse stalls, in one of the barns, and as all combustible material had been removed from there, it is virtually certain some building will be destroyed.

The damage is estimated as between \$5,000 and \$6,000. Only about half of this is covered by insurance.

FREE SWOBODA OF FIRING OF LA TOURAINE

Paris, April 20.—French military authorities have decided to drop the charge of firing fire to the steamer La Touraine which was preferred against the man known as Raymond Swoboda, says the Petit Parisien.

Swoboda, a Frenchman, who is reported as having expressed the opinion that there is not sufficient evidence against the prisoner to obtain a conviction on these charges. He still faces an accusation of espionage, however.

Swoboda, who admitted at a preliminary hearing that his real name was Raymond Ruff Schwind, was removed yesterday from the Sainte prison to the Palais de Justice, where he was examined by Captain Bouchardon. He now is permitted to have the use of a restaurant.

DRUNKEN WITNESS STARTLES JURY IN \$10,000 LAWSUIT

An intoxicated witness who persisted in making speeches to the jury and had great difficulty in pronouncing the word "absolutely" enlivened the hearing yesterday in the \$10,000 suit brought in the superior court by John E. Wood, administrator, against James H. O'Neill of Norwalk. Judge Williams had to warn the witness, whose name was John J. Powers, several times before the man consented to sit down and answer questions in the proper way.

Power was in a drunken condition when he was called to the stand. He asked Judge John J. Walsh, counsel for Wood. Powers admitted he was drunk. "And you're drunk now?" continued Judge Walsh. "Yes," answered Powers.

Powers sold a gun for \$5 to Timothy O'Neill, a 16 year old boy. The latter, while walking with Margaret Wood, also a 16 year old, shot and killed the girl when the gun was accidentally discharged. The parents of the O'Neill boy are charged with negligence and are suing the O'Neill family, is suing them for \$10,000. The trial was still on at press hour.

COL. DUNNING, U. S. A. DIES AGED 85 YEARS

San Francisco, April 20.—Col. Samuel W. Dunning, U. S. A., who has been on the retired list for the last year, died here yesterday after an illness of several months. He was 85 years old.

GERMANS ROUT BRITISH IN EAST AFRICA

Berlin, April 20.—Among the items

Two Torpedo Boat Destroyers Lost Before Peril is Discovered, Says Paris Despatch—No Mine Sweepers Available—British Admiralty Admits Loss of Submarine E-15.

THRILLING EXPLOIT OF SAILORS WHO DYNAMITE STRANDED VESSEL

British Feared Vessel Would Be Serviceable If Enemy Got Possession of Her and Railing To Destroy Her With Long Range Guns Dynamited Her.

Paris, April 20.—Two Turkish torpedo boat destroyers were blown up says a Salonika despatch, while passing through a mine belt which Russian ships had succeeded in laying across the entrance to the Bosphorus while the Turkish fleet was cruising in the Black Sea. The explosions caused by the destruction of the two Turkish boats gave warning to the remainder of the fleet which, the despatch says, was obliged to remain in the Black Sea because no mine sweepers were available.

ADMIRALTY RECOUNTS DESTRUCTION OF GROUNDED SUBMARINE E-15

London, April 20.—The British Admiralty announced officially today that the British submarine E-15 was destroyed in the Dardanelles by British picket boats.

A despatch from Constantinople by way of Berlin received Sunday said that the British submarine E-15 had run ashore in the Dardanelles while reconnoitering. She was shelled by Turkish batteries, some of her crew killed or wounded, and others taken prisoner by the Turks.

The text of the admiralty announcement follows: "The submarine E-15, which grounded on Kepsel Point, last Saturday appears to have been in danger of falling into the enemy's hands in a serviceable condition. Great efforts were made by the Turks to secure her. Attempts to destroy her by artillery and a heavy mine were called for on the individual services of other officers and the men with a view to their recognition."

who commanded the expedition, assisted by Lieut. Arthur Brooke Webb, M. R. and Midshipman John Wolley, and that of the Majestic, under Lieut. Claude Goodwin, both manned by volunteer crews—attacked the submarine. The boats were subjected to a very heavy fire, estimated at over 200 rounds, from Fort No. 5, which was only a few hundred yards distant, and a number of small guns at short range. Notwithstanding this the submarine was torpedoed and rendered useless. The Majestic's picked boat was holed and sunk but the crew were saved by the other boat and the only casualty was one man.

"Vice-Admiral De Robeck speaks in the highest terms of all concerned in this gallant enterprise. Lieut. Commander Eric Robinson has been promoted to a commander by the admiralty and a report has been called for on the individual services of other officers and the men with a view to their recognition."

BRITISH BELIEVE BATTLE NEAR YPRES HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS

London, April 20.—Although the German claims on the one hand, the British and French on the other are diametrically opposed in the matter of the outcome of the battle for Hill 60, southeast of Ypres and near the northern extremity of the line, the facts at hand indicate this engagement indicate this engagement was the most important along the British front since the battle of Neuve Chapelle, and that it perhaps presages the expected general British activity in Flanders.

The British, whether or not they hold all the ground gained, undoubtedly still dominate a part of Zandvoord Ridge, a line of hills running south of Ypres and commanding the road from the Sante position to the front. In this fighting have not been announced. Judging from despatches reaching London, they must have been considerable on both sides. The Germans declare that the British made use of shells containing asphyxiating gases. To this the British reply saying that the Germans used gas and means of warfare, so if the British are now using them they are following the example of their opponents.

The Russians continue their grip in the Carpathians. The news of any decisive action from this area of the fighting is lacking.

The British press to-day is speculating as to the whereabouts of the Marshal Von Hindenburg, commander on the eastern front. Some newspapers published the suggestion that he may attempt a diversion in Poland as well as from Cracow, although it is advanced that the army nature of the land would seem to prevent any large movement at a great cost of men and material.

LONDON NEWS ASKS NEWS FROM FRONT

London, April 20.—Another appeal to the government to take the country further into its confidence contained in an editorial in The Times, which points out that, except for credit and a few small successes, the situation has undergone little apparent change in the past five months. The paper declares that changes in the battle line during that period on both the eastern and western fronts hardly would be noticed by a map maker, while official statements regarding the Dardanelles operations leave much to be desired.

"We urge the government," says The Times, "to use every effort to make the nation understand how small is the progress yet attained on land and how great and manifold are the sacrifices which still must be faced."

KAISER'S AMBASSADOR FAREWELLS TO POPE.

Paris, April 20.—Italy some time ago fixed April 20 (today) was the latest date for the consideration of any proposals Austria might wish to make, according to a report current in Rome and telegraphed to the Figaro. Judge Baron De Macchio, the Austrian ambassador, already has given notice to embassy servants, who now are paid daily, it is said, and the same is true of the payment of tradesmen's bills for goods supplied the embassy.

Pope's despatch declares that in diplomatic circles it is stated that the visit to the Pope a few days ago by Prince Von Buelow, the German ambassador, was to bid farewell to the Pope as the diplomat believed his departure from Rome is imminent.

GERMANS ROUT BRITISH IN EAST AFRICA

Berlin, April 20.—Among the items

given out for publication today by the Overseas News Agency were the following:

"Special mail reports from East Africa state that in a two days' battle German troops, near Pangani routed a strong force landed from British cruisers and transports. The British lost 700 men, among them four companies captured besides many rifles and large stores of ammunition. The casualties were 10 officers and 13 men killed, 14 officers and 22 men wounded."

London Greets Former Premier of Greece

London, April 20.—An Alexandria despatch to Reuters' Telegram Company says former Premier Venizelos of Greece, arrived there this morning and was greeted at the quay by a wildly enthusiastic crowd. He was welcomed officially by Prince Faud, brother of Prince Hussein, the Sultan of Egypt, together with British and French officials.

GEN. BOTHA CAPTURED SOUTH AFRICAN RAILROAD

Cape Town, Union of South Africa, April 20.—Forces of the Union of South Africa have occupied Keetmanshop, the most important town in German Southwest Africa, next to Windhoek, the capital. It is an important railroad junction and gives General Botha, the Boer leader, command of the railroad to Windhoek.

SENATE GETS BILL TO PERMIT SUNDAY MOVIES

(Special to The Farmer.) Hartford, April 20.—From the committee on judiciary a bill was reported to the Senate today, which would permit picture shows to be given on Sunday evenings, between 7 and 11 o'clock. A minority report, signed by Clitus King of Fairfield and H. S. Sherwood of Westport, opposes the bill.

According to the story told the father